

Message Text

PAGE 01 BANGKO 12244 081300Z

51 AA
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 034906

O R 080842Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5478
INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 12244

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. KISSINGER.

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, TH
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH RTG ON FUTURE US MILITARY
PRESENCE AND CAMBODIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

REFS: A. STATE 144716
B. STATE 150842
C. STATE 150845
D. BANGKOK 11856

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER THANOM (PURSUANT
TO INSTRUCTIONS REFS A, B, AND C, AND AS REPORTED REF D)
AND IN RESPONSE TO REPEATED RTG REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION
CONCERNING FUTURE OF US MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND,
I ASSURED THANOM THAT "WE INTEND TO REMAIN IN CLOSE
CONSULTATION WITH RTG REGARDING FORCE LEVELS." IN REPLY TO
SPECIFIC THAI PROBING ABOUT REDUCTION AND CONGRESSIONAL
PRESSURE FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL I ALSO SAID THAT "IT WAS OUR
INTENTION TO STUDY US MILITARY PRESENCE JOINTLY WITH THE
THAI AND WORK OUT AN AGREED POSITION" AND THAT WE WERE
"FULLY PREPARED TO GO PUBLIC ON THE FACT THAT DISCUSSIONS
SECRET

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ON THIS SUBJECT WERE UNDER WAY." RTG HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY
BEEN ASKING US TO GET THOSE DISCUSSIONS UNDER WAY; REQUEST
WAS CONVEYED MOST RECENTLY BY AMBASSADOR ANAND (THAI AMB
IN WASHINGTON) WHOM THE PRIME MINISTER HAS HELD IN BANGKOK

FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. WITH THE AUGUST 15 BOMBING HALT FAST APPROACHING AND IN VIEW OF THE OBVIOUS THAI ANXIETIES ON THIS ISSUE I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS ASAP THAT WOULD PERMIT ME TO OPEN TALKS WITH THE RTG IMMEDIATELY. AT THAT TIME I WOULD LIKE TO PUT BEFORE THE RTG OUR CONCRETE PROPOSALS ABOUT REDUCTIONS, AT LEAST TO COVER A FIRST, EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM NAM PHONG, AND PERHAPS ELSEWHERE.

3. IN THE SAME MEETING WITH THANOM I ALSO REAFFIRMED OUR INTENTION OF KEEPING HIM INFORMED REGARDING THE PROGRESS OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE CAMBODIAN PROBLEM. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WOULD EMABLE ME TO DISCHARGE THAT OBLIGATION.

UNGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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